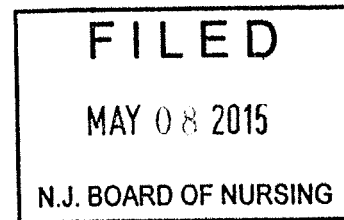


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION	:	Administrative Action
OR RECOVATION OF THE LICENSEE. OF	:	
	:	ORDER OF SUSPENSION
SUSAN THOMPSON, R.N.	:	OF LICENSE
LICENSE # NR 05698400	:	
	:	
TO PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED	:	
NURSE (R.N.) IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information indicating the following:

1. Respondent, Susan Thompson, is the holder of License No. NR05698400 and is a registered nurse in the State of New Jersey.

2. Respondent entered into a private letter agreement with the Board which she signed on or about May 13, 2011.

(Exhibit A) The agreement required respondent to enroll in the Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey (RAMP), undergo evaluation and monitoring, agree to follow recommendations by RAMP for further treatment, and to refrain from the use of any and all potentially addictive substances. (Exhibit A, ¶¶2, 6, and 10) The agreement was to have the force and effect of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4. In the event that the Board received reliable information that respondent had acted in violation of the RAMP contract and/or the agreement, the agreement was no longer to remain confidential.

3. In a communication dated February 11, 2015, Suzanne Alunni-Kinkle, Director of RAMP, advised the Board that respondent was noncompliant with RAMP monitoring requirements, in that she had undergone a total of 8 relapses in the course of 2014, with the most recent relapse on December 31, 2014. Director Kinkle indicated respondent had not responded to recent attempts by RAMP to contact her on January 27, 2015 and February 5, 2015. (Exhibit B)

4. On or about March 23, 2015, a letter issued by overnight and regular mail to respondent at her address of record, advising respondent that the Board had received credible

information indicating that she was not in compliance with the private letter agreement, and advising her to forward within five days any proof that she was currently in compliance with RAMP. (Exhibit C)

5. The overnight mailing was delivered on March 24, 2015. (Exhibit C) Respondent faxed in a responsive communication indicating that she wanted assistance and guidance in retaining her nursing license, however she indicated that it was difficult to reach her by telephone or email because her telephone does not ring, and she does not have internet service most of the time. (Exhibit D)

6. A certification from RAMP's director dated April 30, 2015 indicates that although Ms. Thompson indicated on her March 27, 2015 communication that she had copied Suzanne Kinkle on her facsimile, RAMP records do not indicate receipt of any such facsimile, nor has Ms. Thompson made any other attempts to resume participation in RAMP since February 11, 2015 when Ms. Kinkle notified George Hebert of Ms. Thompson's lack of compliance with RAMP. (Exhibit E)

7. The private letter agreement signed by respondent, which by its terms has the force and effect of a Board order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4, provided for automatic suspension of respondent's nursing license upon receipt of reliable information indicating that respondent has

violated any term of the private letter agreement. (Exhibit A, ¶13)

8. Respondent's admitted relapses, her failure to appear for scheduled screenings on six occasions in January and February of 2015, and her failure to respond to RAMP's attempts to reach out to her on January 27, 2015 and February 5, 2015 constitute multiple violations of the terms of the private letter agreement.

Accordingly,

IT IS on this 8th day of May, 2015

HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey shall be and hereby is suspended for her violation of the private letter agreement, which is deemed a violation of a Board order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4 and N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

2. Respondent may, under the terms of the private letter agreement, upon notice, request a hearing on the sole issue of whether respondent has failed to comply with the terms of the private letter agreement.

3. In the event that respondent seeks reinstatement of her New Jersey nursing license at any future time, the Board shall not entertain any application for reinstatement without respondent's demonstrating that she is in full compliance with

the terms and conditions of the private letter agreement and with any agreement with RAMP, and is fit and competent to practice nursing.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: *Patricia Murphy PhD APN*
Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN, C
Board President